WRITTEN ANSWERS TO UNSTARRED QUESTIONS

Betel Vines

757. SHRI ANANTA SETHI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a large number of betel vines have been destroyed due to cyclone in Orissa;

(b) if so, the steps taken to pay compensation and assistance to betel growers in that State; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir. A report of damage to betelvine due to cyclone in Orissa during October, 1999 was received.

(b) and (c) An assistance of Rs. 500 crores from National Fund for Calamity Relief was released for relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction measures in all sectors including horticulture which covers betelvine crop.

Incentives for cash crops

758. SHRI S. RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of Agriculture be pleased to state:

(a) the incentives given/likely to be given for the production of cash crops in Kerala and other parts of the country in the year 1999-2000 and 2000-2001; and

(b) the position of Kerala in the production of cash crops in the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) order to increase the production of Cotton, Sugarcane, Jute/ Mesta in various States, three Centrally Sponsored Schemes, viz., Intensive Cotton Development Programme, (ICDP-Cotton), Special Jute Development Programme (SJDP) and Sustainable Development

of Sugarcane Based Cropping System (SUBACS), are under implementation. Among these schemes, the State of Kerala is covered under Sugarcane Scheme.

Under these Schemes, assistance is provided for the transfer of production technologies through field demonstration and farmers training as well as for the use of critical inputs such as seed, implements, contingencies, etc. Assistance for water saving devices like drip in cotton and sugarcane schemes, moist-heat-seed treatment unit in sugarcane and construction of retting tanks in jute scheme are also being assisted.

The funds released during 1999-2000 till date to various States at All-India level and to the State of Kerala are as under, while funds for the year 2000-2001 is to be given after the receipt of proposals from the States:—

Funds Released till date (Rs. in lakhs)

Name of Scheme	All-Implementing States	Kerala
Intensive Cotton Dev. Programme	1577.44	Not covered
Sustainable Dev. of Sugarcane Based Cropping System	819.36	16.68
Special Jute Dev. Programme	151.20	Not covered

(b) The average production of these cash crops during 1996-97 to

1998-99 at All-India level viz-a-viz State of Kerala along with the share of Kerala to the National Level, is as under:—

State	Cotton (Lakh bales)	Jute/ Mesta (Lakh bales)	Sugarcane (Lakh tons)
All-India	124.20	106.14	2842.7
Kerala	0.20	Nil	5.01
Share of Kerala to All-India	0.16%	—	0.18%

Central Integrated Pest Management Centre

759. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a Central scheme for setting up Central Integrated Pest Management Centre in various States;

(b) if so, the details of the scheme, the number of centers set up in the country during the last three years, year-wise. State-wise and the amount spent on each center;

(c) whether it is a fact that the Government of Kernataka has sent a proposal to set up such Centre at Gulbarga and also in other parts of the State; and

(d) if so, the details of the proposal and the reaction of Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) and (b) Under the ongoing Central Sector Plan Scheme-Promotion of Integrated Pest Management, the Central Government has set up 26 Central Integrated Pest Management Centres in 21 States and one Union Territory during 1990-91, as per statement enclosed *{see* below). The objectives of these Centres are to carry out pest monitoring and surveillance, biological control of